## ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A defect signal detecting apparatus for an optical recording/reproducing apparatus that includes a maximum value detecting unit for detecting a highest amplitude among signals input during a maximum value detection period as a maximum value, a minimum value detecting unit for detecting a lowest amplitude among signals input during a minimum value detection period as a minimum value, an asymmetry detecting unit for calculating an amount $\delta$ of asymmetry by detecting a maximum value $I_L^{max}$ and a minimum value $I_L^{min}$ of a signal $I_L$ having a maximum periodicity among the signal input, and a maximum value $I_S^{max}$ and a minimum value $I_S^{min}$ of a signal $I_S$ having a minimum periodicity among the signal input, and a defect determining unit for determining whether there is a defect in the signal input, using the maximum value, the minimum value and the amount $\delta$ of asymmetry.